

[REPUBLIC ACT NO. 4209, June 19, 1965]

AN ACT TO REGULATE THE PRACTICE OF GEOLOGY IN THE PHILIPPINES AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE LICENSING AND REGISTRATION OF GEOLOGISTS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

Article I

SECTION 1. *Title of Act.* — This Act shall be known as "Geology Profession Law of the Philippines."

SEC. 2. *Creation and composition of the Board.* — Within thirty days after the approval of this Act, there shall be created a Board of Examiners for Geologists to be composed of three members, one of whom to be designated chairman, all to be appointed by the President of the Philippines upon recommendation by the Geological Society of the Philippines.

SEC. 3. *Powers vested in the Board.* — The Board of Examiners for Geologists is vested with authority conformably with the provisions of this Act, to administer oaths, to issue, suspend and revoke certificates of registration for the practice of geology, to investigate violations of this Act and for this purpose it may, under the hand of its chairman and seal of the Board, *subpoena* witnesses (and compel their attendance), and to discharge such other duties as the Board may deem necessary for the maintenance of ethical and technical standards of the geology profession.

The Board shall exercise the powers conferred upon it by this Act, shall from time to time look into the conditions affecting the practice of geology in the Philippines, and whenever necessary, recommend to the President of the Philippines the adoption of such measures as may be deemed proper for the enforcement of this Act.

SEC. 4. *Qualifications of Board Members.* — Each member of the Board shall at the time of his appointment:

1. Be a citizen of the Philippines;
2. Be a holder of any of the degrees of Bachelor of Science in Geology, Bachelor of Science in Mining Engineering, Bachelor of Science, major in Geology, Master of Science (Geology), all with at least ten years experience in geologic work after graduation, or a holder of the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Geology) with at least five, years experience in geologic work ;
3. Be a registered geologist in the Philippines, except for the members of the first Board who shall automatically be registered under the provisions of this Act; and

4. Not be a member of the faculty of any school, college or university, where degrees in geology, mining engineering or geological engineering are granted, nor has pecuniary interests in such institution at least two years before his appointment as member of the Board.

SEC. 5. *Term of Office.* — The members of the Board shall hold office for a term of three years after their appointment or until their successors shall have been appointed and duly qualified. The members of the first Board appointed under this Act shall hold office for the following terms: one member (who shall be the Chairman of the Board) for one year, one member for two years and one member for three years. The chairmanship of the Board for any year shall be held by the member on his last tenure year as member of the Board. In case of death or removal for cause of any member, a new member shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines, and shall serve the unfinished term of his predecessor. Each member of the Board shall qualify by taking the proper oath of office prior to entering upon the performance of his duties.

SEC. 6. *Executive Officer and Secretary of the Board.* — The Commissioner of Civil Service shall be the executive officer of the Board and shall conduct the examination given by it. The Secretary of the Board Examiners appointed under Act Numbered Four thousand seven 'Shall also be the Secretary of the Board. All records and minutes of the deliberations of the Board, including examination papers, shall be kept by the Civil Service Commission under the direct custody of the Secretary.

SEC. 7. *Removal of Board Members.* — The President through his Executive Secretary may remove any, member of the Board for continued neglect of duty or incompetency, or for unethical conduct, after having given the member concerned an opportunity to defend himself in a proper administrative investigation.

SEC. 8. *Compensation of the Board.* — The members of the Board shall each receive as compensation the sum of twenty pesos for each applicant examined or registered without examination as geologist. A member of the Board who is at the same time a government employee shall received the compensation herein provided in addition to his salary. All fees shall be received by the Civil Service Commission, which shall pay all authorized compensations and expenditures of the Board.

SEC. 9. *Rules and Regulations.* — The Board may, with the advice and consent of the Commissioner of Civil Service and subject to the approval of the President of the Philippines, adopt such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act. Penal provisions shall be included in said regulations.

SEC. 10. The Board shall submit an annual report to the President of the Philippines through his Executive Secretary after the close of each fiscal year, giving a detailed account of its proceedings during the year and making such recommendations as it may deem proper.

Article II

Registration and Examination

SEC. 11. *Inhibition from practicing the profession of geology.* — Unless exempt from registration, no person shall practice or offer to practice geology in the Philippines as

defined in this Acts without having previously obtained a certificate of registration as geologist from the Board of Examiners for Geologists created under this Act; and in the case of non-Filipinos, unless the country of which he is a citizen permits Filipino geologists or geological engineers to practice their professions within the territorial limits.

SEC. 12. *Definition of Terms.* — A person shall be deemed to be practicing geology or rendering geological service within the meaning of this Act who shall, for a fee, salary or other reward or compensation paid to him or through another person, render or offer to render geological work by means of signs, cards, advertisements or any other way, in the form of consultation, geological investigation involving geologic mapping, paleontology, petrology, mineralogy or other branches of geology.

SEC. 13. *Exemption from Registration.* — Registration shall not be required of the following classes of persons:

- a. A qualified geologist or geological engineer called in by the Republic of the Philippines for consultation or for conduct of a specific geological investigation: *Provided*, That his or her practice shall be confined to said consultation or investigation: *And provided, further*, That prior written permission is secured from the Board.
- b. A geologist or geological engineer called in by a *bona fide* corporation registered under the laws of the Philippines, for consultation on or for conduct of a specific investigation: *Provided, however*, That his or her practice is confined to said consultation or investigation: *And provided, further*, That such consultation or investigation shall not last longer than six months, renewable under authority of the Board for an additional period of not more than six months: *And provided, further*, That such geologist or geological engineer is legally qualified to practice as geologist or geological engineer in his or her own state or country: *And provided, finally*, That his or her state or country grants the same reciprocity to Filipino citizens.

SEC. 14. *Examinations Required.* — Except as otherwise allowed under the provisions of this Act, all applicants for registration for the practice of geology shall be required to undergo technical written examinations as provided in this Act.

Sec. 15. *Qualifications for Examinations.* — In order to be admitted to the examination for geologists, an applicant shall establish to the satisfaction of the Board that:

1. He is at least twenty-one years of age;
2. He is of good reputation and moral character;
3. He has graduated from a school, college or university recognized by the government, with any of the degrees of
 - a. Bachelor of Science in Geology, Geological Engineer, or Master of Science (Geology);
 - b. Bachelor of Science in Geological Engineering;
 - c. Bachelor of Science, Major in Geology; and
 - d. Bachelor of Arts, major in Geology.

Provided, That if the applicant is a foreigner, he must satisfy the above-mentioned requirements and establish to the satisfaction of the Board that his state or country